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COUNTRY Chile

SUBJECT Radical Party Activities in the Labor Field

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1. The Radical Party of Chile, under the leadership of Senator Isaura Torres, head of the Syndical Department of that party, is attempting to organize a new labor organization. Torres hopes that the proposed Radical-dominated national labor organization will be able to gain control of the following federations:
 - Federacion Industrial Ferroviaria (Industrial Federation of Railroad Workers)
 - Confederacion (or Federacion) Nacional de Empleados Particulares (National Confederation of Private Employees)
 - Asociacion Nacional de Empleados Semi-Fiscales (National Association of Employees of Semi-Government Entities)
 - Federacion Nacional de Empleados Fiscales (National Federation of Government Workers)*
2. The Federacion Industrial Ferroviaria. It is estimated that the Radical Party controls approximately 20 per cent of the members of this federation at the present time. However, four of the eight members of the National Board of Directors are members of the Radical Party. The other four members are Socialists, of the Eugenio Gonzales or Raul Ampuero faction, who are opposed to the CTCh Socialista of Bernardo Ibanez.
3. The Confederacion (or Federacion) Nacional de Empleados Particulares. It has been previously reported that this federation was formed by unification of the Communist-controlled Federacion Independiente de Empleados Particulares (FIEP), the Confederacion de Empleados Particulares de Chile controlled by the Radical Party, and the Confederacion Independiente de Empleados Particulares controlled by the Socialists. Since this powerful organization has not yet associated itself with either the CTCh Socialista or the CTCh Comunista, Radical Party leaders have high hopes of obtaining effective control. In the event that the Radicals are unable to gain control, however, Torres has already ordered Radical labor leaders within the federation to disrupt it, according to report. At the same time, Torres and the Radical Party labor leaders have formed a similar organization called Union de Empleados de Chile (UECh) which will become the future Radical Party federation of private employees if the party does not gain control

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of the existing group. At present, the UECh, led by Hinojosa Robles, has fewer than 1000 members. If Torres is successful in winning over the Confederacion Nacional de Empleados Particulares, the UECh will be disbanded.

4. The Federacion Nacional de Empleados Semi-Fiscales. The Radical Party controls approximately 60 per cent of the members of this group. In addition, since the Radical Party exercises great influence in the government, it is believed that the majority of semi-fiscal employees wish to join the proposed Radical Party labor organization, feeling that their interest lies in doing so.
5. The Federacion Nacional de Empleados Fiscales. This group is also expected to join the proposed Radical Party labor organization in spite of the opposition of its president, Clotario Blest Rizzo, who is an independent Social Christian (Conservative). It is considered highly improbable that Blest Rizzo will be able to impose his will on the predominantly Radical Party board of directors.
6. Though Bernardo Ibanez and other leaders of the CTCh Socialista at first protested the Radical Party decision to form a new labor organization instead of continuing to support the CTCh Socialista, nevertheless the latest information indicates that, following a conference with President Gonzalez Videla, Ibanez has agreed to accept and collaborate with the proposed Radical labor organization. Ibanez agreed to this collaboration on the condition that no attempt would be made to undermine the precarious position of the CTCh Socialista.** During this conference with Gonzalez Videla, it was pointed out to Ibanez that none of the four above-mentioned national federations is affiliated with the CTCh Socialista. It was also pointed out that a powerful Radical-dominated labor organization working in harmony with the CTCh Socialista would be able to oppose the CTCh Comunista even more successfully.

25X1A6a [REDACTED] Comment. Background information and data on the size and importance of these labor organizations were reported in [REDACTED] 25X1A2g

25X1A6a * [REDACTED] Comment. It is difficult to see how a powerful and well-organized Radical-dominated national labor entity could work indefinitely in close harmony with the CTCh Socialista. Though the Radical national labor organization and the CTCh Socialista would be united by their common opposition to the CTCh Comunista, there is reason to believe that the badly organized CTCh Socialista could not withstand the gravitational pull of a powerful labor organization dominated by the Radical Party and helped by the tacit or active support of the national government. There is some reason to believe, therefore, that the Radical assurances to Ibanez should be taken with a grain of salt. Since Ibanez and other CTCh Socialista leaders are probably well aware of the danger to their power inherent in the successful formation of a Radical Party-dominated national labor organization, it is thought probable that the CTCh Socialista collaboration with the Radical Party will be more apparent than real.

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